International Seabed Authority

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Legal and Technical Commission

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Consideration of applications for approval of plans of work for exploration deferred from the nineteenth session of the International Seabed Authority

Note by the Secretariat

1. The purpose of the present note is to inform the members of the Legal and Technical Commission of the status of the following applications for approval of plans of work for exploration that the Commission considered in closed meetings at its session in July 2013.

Applicant	*Sponsoring State*	*Date of receipt*	*Resource*
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation		6 February 2013	Cobalt-rich crusts
UK Seabed Resources Ltd.	United Kingdom	8 February 2013	Polymetallic nodules
Government of India		26 March 2013	Polymetallic sulphides
Ocean Mineral Singapore Pte. Ltd.	Singapore	19 April 2013	Polymetallic nodules (reserved area)

2. In 2013, the Commission made no recommendations to the Council on those applications and decided to resume consideration of them as a priority item at its next meeting in 2014.

3. The Commission considered first the application submitted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation. Following an oral presentation of the application, the Commission raised questions for clarification and requested its Chairman to forward them to the Secretary-General for onward transmission to the designated representative of the applicant. Responses were provided to the Commission. On 12 July 2013, the Commission decided to set up a

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